

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the detailed examination evidenced by the Final Office Action. Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 5-6, 7-21, 23-27, 29, and 31-32 under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(a) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,826,025 to Gramlich (hereinafter "Gramlich"). The Final Office Action has now rejected Claims 1, 5-6, 7-21, 23-27, 29, and 31-32 under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as unpatentable over Gramlich in view of the publication "Semantic annotation and transcoding: making Web content more accessible", Multimedia, IEEE, Vol. 8, Issue 2, April-June 2001, pages 69-81 by Nagao (hereinafter "Nagao").

Applicants have submitted herewith a Declaration of Kathryn Britton pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.131 in response to the new citation of Nagao in the Final Office Action. As explained in the Declaration, Kathryn Britton and the other named co-inventors conceived and reduced to practice the subject matter of the instant application in the United States prior to April 1, 2001, the earliest publication date of Nagao. Consequently, Nagao does not qualify as prior art to the present application under 35 U.S.C. Secs. 102, 103. Accordingly, based on the showing in the attached Declaration, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 5-6, 7-21, 23-27, 29, and 31-32 over Gramlich in view of Nagao be withdrawn. The other pending Claims 4 and 22 are patentable per the patentability of the independent claims from which they depend.

Having addressed each of the issues raised in the Final Official Action, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

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Respectfully submitted,


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